Tennessee Leadership



#### A Strategic Advantage



## **Our History**

In 1983 the Tennessee Government Executive Institute (TGEI) was created for senior executives in state government as a professional development program. Each summer, in three intensive weeks over a three-month period, TGEI provides thirty of state government's top managers the opportunity to broaden their perspectives of executive responsibility, and to broaden their knowledge and perspectives of leadership principles and practices.



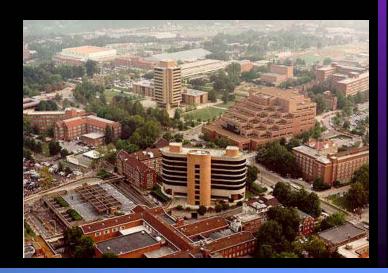
TGEI class members travel to the University of Tennessee at Knoxville to study, analyze and discuss the major local and global changes that are rapidly occurring in the business, political, and overall workplace environment; to determine the implications

these changes will have on their ability to efficiently manage resources and organizational systems.





The TGEI experience is designed to help class members gain fresh perspectives and enhance their leadership skills.



### **Our History**

State leaders are increasingly faced with new challenges. Today's state leaders must be able to plan for and balance the demands for services with available resources to remain solvent and effective. To accomplish this, those who are expected to lead must continuously evaluate and improve their performance and leadership skills.



TGEI provides participants with the knowledge, skills, and insights necessary for leading and sustaining organizational effectiveness and

efficiency in dealing with these challenges.





Through a unique combination of academic and "real world" instruction, state executives broaden their insight into how state government works, interact with their peers from other departments, and acquire and

practice new skills to improve workplace performance, interaction and productivity.



Throughout the years, TGEI has endorsed several events to promote interactions and professional growth for alumni. These events include brown bags, fall conferences, and holiday gatherings. It is well recognized that these events are a part of the TGEI experience and serve to nurture leadership development and networking.



In addition, the Department of Human Resources maintains an online alumni directory and TGEI web page. Most recently, the TGEI alumni network assisted in the development of a Speakers Bureau. The purpose of the Bureau is to develop a catalog of presentations to offer to the general public,

which describe state initiatives or program areas that focus on the positive aspects of state government.





Exercising leadership effectively is crucial to successfully dealing with today's challenges, and the challenges facing executive

management are daunting and constantly changing. Dealing with this dynamic environment takes skill, insight, and an ever-expanding range of talents and tools. The TGEI experience and the alumni network foster the development of performance targets, motivation of employees, and growth of new strategies.



#### **TGEI Mission Statement**

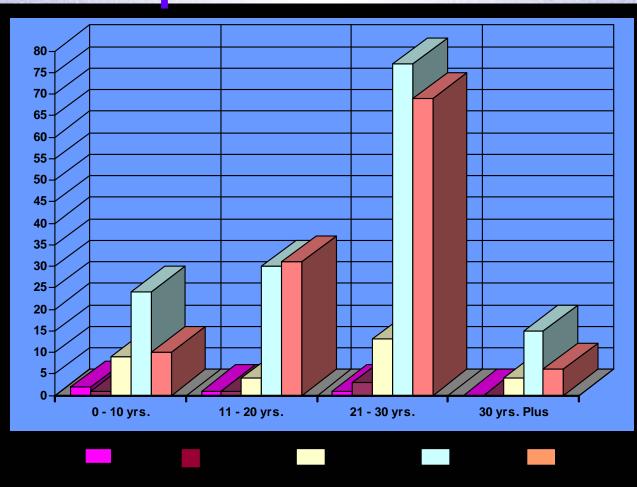
To enhance the effectiveness of managers in Tennessee State Government through education, fostering personal networking strategies, developing new leaders and practical application of principles of contemporary management philosophies.

### **Demographics**

Today, there are 478 graduates of the program, with 243 or 51 percent still employed in state government. In 2002, of the 243: 37 or 15 percent have 30 or more years of service and 109 or 45 percent have 25 or more years of service. The 243 active TGEI alumni members have a cumulative 5,377 years of service, with an average of 22.1 years service.



#### By Job Title & Years of Experience



Comm'r

Dpty. Comm'r

Asst. Comm'r

Director

Other



The Tennessee Government Executive Institute's mission is to enhance the effectiveness of managers in Tennessee State Government through education, fostering personal networking strategies, developing new leaders and practical application of principles of contemporary management philosophies. In addition to this mission, TGEI

has developed a mission and passion to improve the lives of Tennesseans through community

involvement.

# TGEI Community Involvement

Since 1983 TGEI has supported many community organizations through donations from the alumni. These projects have included purchasing Christmas presents for underprivileged children in each of the three Grand Divisions of the state and donations to Habitat for Humanity, Alive Hospice, and Saint Jude. Since 1997 TGEI has collected and distributed over \$10,000 to these organizations.



Through this work countless numbers of individuals have been assisted and quality of life improved.

As leaders and servants in the public sector we are faced with many changes and challenges, but none greater than providing

a better way of life for the underprivileged and helpless of Tennessee.

# TGEI Community Involvement

TGEI will continue to provide participants with the knowledge, skills, and insights necessary for being leaders in Tennessee state government, but will also instill a feeling of leadership in helping Tennessee, its citizens and making Tennessee a better place to live.

I was a member of the TGEI Class of 2000, and have just rotated off of the TGEI Steering Committee. I found TGEI to be the most rewarding experience I have had to date in state government. The program gave me the opportunity to hone my leadership skills and to truly take a step back and view things from a "big picture" perspective. The chance to network and "bond" with my peers has allowed me to

have a better understanding of where my agency fits within state government - and, equally as important, has allowed me to cut through red tape on occasion when I needed to get the job done with the assistance of another agency. I have recommended this program, without any hesitation, to many of my fellow new commissioners.

Loren Chumley

It is hard to believe that 17 years have passed since I participated in TGEI. Although I work for another state at this time, the leadership and management principles I learned through the Institute have helped me in every position I have held. Even more important than the learning was the opportunity to network and become friends with so many outstanding individuals in my class and the Network.

I have had the good fortune to participate in several very good leadership development activities, and TGEI remains the best of these. Tennessee's government leaders should be commended for making this investment in public sector management.

Ann Cobb Class of 1985

TGEI was the best training/learning/networking opportunity that I have had in my many years of employment with the state. We had challenging speakers, interesting topics, great special quest speakers, fellowship, and comradery. We developed a sense of belonging to a group that would use their abilities for the good of the state.

I feel that TGEI strengthened bonds between people in organizations that would never have met otherwise. When you need something in another department, you can always contact your TGEI alumni in that agency and they do their best to help.

Ron Ericson Class of 1991



# TGEI provided some of the best management training I have had since joining state government.

It gave me an opportunity to meet other government leaders and focus on statewide issues and concerns not just department issues. The network of friends I made during TGEI and at alumni functions has proven to be valuable in my everyday duties--giving me connections and resources to get things done in the most efficient, effective, and timely manner.



I think that TGEI and TGMI both provide essential knowledge and skills needed for effective government management.

Jeff G. Smith Class of 1996

I believe TGEI is one of the best programs of its type that I have been involved. I have attended the Local Government Leadership program, the GFOA Executive Leadership program and numerous others over the length of my career. The TGEI has done more to bring professionalism to the executive staff of State Government than any other program of this type. The personal relations aspect of the program is one of the great hidden benefits to its participants.

I certainly encourage the State to continue this marvelous program as the benefits to the State far outweigh the cost of providing this service. The knowledge gained during this program would take many years of experience to obtain, but is gained over a fairly short duration.



Also the Alums group continually reinforces the TGEI experience. Keep up this great program.

Bill Brinton
Class of 1996



I am developing an attributes study entitled, Attitude, Employee Infrastructure, and Mental <u>Efficiency</u>.

An outline of the ingredients that shape attitude had been started when I was fortunately selected to the Tennessee Government Executive Institute (TGEI) class of 2000. As a result of this 3-week experience, the final outline was developed.

I am grateful to my classmates, the Department of Personnel and the University of Tennessee Institute of Public Service staff, and the many great instructors and speakers who shared their knowledge and experiences in this motivational environment. I feel a deep sense of gratitude to the management of Finance and Administration for allowing me to participate in the TGEI experience.

I am hopeful this study and its application will in some way express this gratitude and will be of some benefit not only for Finance and Administration but also for all of Tennessee State Government and for our ultimate customers, the citizens of Tennessee.

Markell C. Vogel Class of 2000



# I found TGEI to be one of the best experiences I have had since being with State Government.

I have encouraged several other employees of TDOT to attend and they have had similar experiences.

The program is well organized and has excellent program content.

Mike Shinn Class of 1996



## TGEI is a rewarding, enlightening, and wonderful experience.

Not only do you have the opportunity to make new friends, but it also provides opportunities to assist in one's on-going self-development.

Barbara Bowling Class of 2000

We all have heard the phrase "its not what you know, but who you know that makes the difference". More often than not, having specific skills and a solid knowledge base is not enough to get things done. We sometime need the help of others.

And knowing the right people within the various organizations can be as valuable in some cases as having unique skills or an expanded knowledge base on a particular subject.

As a 1996 graduate of TGEI, I have found TGEI to be a conduit for me to reach the right people within State government when I need assistance. TGEI has proven to be a valuable resource for me.

Chester G. Hughes
Class of 1996



TGEI was the very best professional training received in a 30 year state career.

It opened doors outside own agency and allowed personal growth through interactions with others.

Joe Browning Class of 1985